

DEPARTMENT OF BUILDING AND
ZONING
OF COOK COUNTY, ILLINOIS

Timothy P. Bleuher
COMMISSIONER OF BUILDING AND ZONING
OF COOK COUNTY



County Administration Building
69 W. Washington, Suite 2830
Chicago, IL 60602-3169
TEL (312) 603-0500
FAX (312) 603-9940
TDD (800) 526-0857

<http://www.cookcountyil.gov/building-and-zoning>

PUBLIC & PRIVATE IN-GROUND POOL PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

Please address the following requirements with respect to your permit application. The department of Building and Zoning now requires digital submissions for all applications and supporting documents. Applicants that have digital files 10MB or less are encouraged to email their submittals to: Intake.bnz@cookcountyil.gov. If your submittal is larger, we accept an electronic copy on flash drive or CD (PDF format). Once you receive your permit review number, please submit by mail the deposit fee (1/10th of 1% of the estimated cost of work or \$25.00 whichever is greater). Checks (with the permit review number noted) should be mailed to the department at the address above, and made payable to the **Cook County Collector**.

Definition

A private residential in-ground swimming pool shall mean a manmade basin or receptacle for water having a depth in excess of 18 inches or more, constructed of concrete, steel or other approved materials, and shall have an impervious finish. The bottom surface shall be smooth, to facilitate cleaning, and shall slope to the main drain. The intended use of a private residential in-ground pool shall be for swimming, wading or bathing exclusively by the home owner or occupant of the land or premise, his family and guests. **Note:** All pools are subject to Section 17.11.

Private Swimming Pool Requirements

1. **Plat of survey** not less than (5) years old; sealed and certified by an Illinois Registered Land Surveyor.
2. **Site Plan** showing:
 - Location of residence
 - Location of any accessory structures (sheds, decks, etc.).
 - Location of proposed pool with dimensioned distance from lot lines.
 - Sources of water, electric and sewage utilities; if septic, show field and tank locations
 - Method of connecting and discharging pool
3. Digital **complete sets of plans** sealed and certified by an Illinois Registered Architect or Structural Engineer, must be submitted for prior approval to: Cook County Public Health Department 2121 Euclid Avenue, Room 250, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008, 847-818-2841.
<http://www.cookcountypublichealth.org/permits-and-licensing>
4. After approval by the Cook County Public Health Department, submit the permit application and plans to the Cook County Department of Building and Zoning for approval. See Pool permit requirements below:
 - Any pool 18 inches or more in depth must comply.
 - Pool and equipment must be more than ten feet from a property line.
 - Pool must be constructed of concrete, steel or other approved material.
 - Pool must have impervious surface.
 - Bottom of pool must be smooth and must slope to drain.
 - Four foot wide walk required around entire pool.
 - Walk must be non-slip and slope 1/4 inch per foot away from pool.
 - Pool must be enclosed on all four sides with minimum four feet high non-climbable fence.
 - All gates in fence must be self-closing and self-latching with latch at least four feet above grade.
 - Pools 1500sf or greater require overflow gutters.
 - Skimmers required, 500sf> 1; 800sf> 2; 1100sf> 3; 1500sf> 4
 - Pools require two means of egress, one in each end.
 - Ladders or steps must be at least three inches wide with handrails.
 - Compliance with the 2009 IECC is required, see 403.9.
 - Pool heater exhaust must be a minimum of 15' from any fresh air intake or operable window.
 - When the proposed work includes any modifications to topography, changes to surface drainage patterns or installation of any storm water or drainage infrastructure, three sets of fully engineered site development drawings are required, see Engineering Advisory.

PUBLIC & PRIVATE IN-GROUND POOL PERMIT REQUIREMENTS [CONTINUED]

5. All contractors must be registered with the Cook County Building and Zoning Department, and submit signed letters declaring that they will be doing the actual work stated on the application for permit.
 - Pool Contractor
 - Plumbing contractor
 - Electrical contractor and electrical drawings
6. If any changes to existing topography, surface drainage patterns or storm water infrastructure.

Public Swimming Pool Requirements

1. Approval from the State Health Department in Springfield.
2. Three (3) sets of plans and specifications prepared by a registered engineer or architect sent to the State Health Department in Springfield. Send to:

**Illinois Department of Public Health
535 West Jefferson
Springfield, IL 62706
Attention: Bureau of Public Water Supplies**

3. Four (4) sets of plans and specification prepared by a registered engineer sent to the Cook County Health Department for approval

**YOU MUST HAVE A STATE PERMIT BEFORE
COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT APPROVAL**

For digital submission of application and supporting documents, please refer to our web site:

<http://www.cookcountyil.gov/building-and-zoning>

Important Links:

[Procedures for the New Permitting Processing System](#)

[Cook County Building Permit Application](#)